

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FORM**

Property Name: Willow Grove Inventory Number: M: 23-115
Address: 16301 Batchellor's Forest Road Historic district: yes ☒ no
City: Olney Zip Code: 20832 County: Montgomery
USGS Quadrangle(s): Kensington
Property Owner: Albert L. and M.S. Lauer Tax Account ID Number:
Tax Map Parcel Number(s): 141 Tax Map Number: HS562
Project: Intercounty Connector Project Agency: SHA
Agency Prepared By: P.A.C. Spero & Company
Preparer's Name: Date Prepared: 10/1/1996
Documentation is presented in: Maryland Inventory Form M: 23-115
Preparer's Eligibility Recommendation: ☒ Eligibility recommended ☐ Eligibility not recommended
Criteria: A B ☒ C D Considerations: A B C D E F G
Complete if the property is a contributing or non-contributing resource to a NR district/property:
Name of the District/Property:
Inventory Number: Eligible: yes Listed: yes
ite visit by MHT Staff yes ☒ no Name: Date:

Description of Property and Justification: *(Please attach map and photo)*

Willow Grove, constructed in several phases beginning circa 1830, is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C, as an intact vernacular farm complex, including an I-house, a barn, two stables, a garage, and the ruins of other outbuildings. Character defining features of the main house, such as a central, portico-covered entrance, symmetrical fenestration pattern, and simple ornamentation, possess excellent integrity. Willow Grove retains good site integrity despite the reduction of its land holdings to 3.64 hectares (9 acres) and the period of significance of the property extends from circa 1930 to 1947. The property is not eligible under Criterion A, as research conducted indicates no association with any historic events or trends significant in the development of national, state, or local history. Historic research indicates that the property has no association with persons who have made specific contributions to history, and therefore, it does not meet Criterion B. In addition, it has no known potential to yield important information, and therefore, does not meet Criterion D.

[Property determined eligible under Criterion C via letter dated September 10, 1996. Keeper of the National Register concurred that the property is eligible on August 7, 1997.]

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

Eligibility recommended ☒ Eligibility not recommended

Criteria: A B ☒ C D Considerations: A B C D E F G

MHT Comments:

[Signature]
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services

[Signature]
Reviewer, National Register Program

9/29/03

Date

9/29/03

Date

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST ADDENDUM SHEET
INTERCOUNTY CONNECTOR PROJECT

Property Name: Willow Grove
Survey No.: M:23-115 (PACS D11.9)

Property Address 16301 Batchellor's Forest Road, Olney, Montgomery County, Maryland
Owner Name/Address Albert L. and M.S. Lauer/16301 Batchellor's Forest Road, Olney, MD 20832
Year Built circa 1830

Description:

Willow Grove, constructed circa 1830, with subsequent additions, was surveyed by the Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC) in 1975. The main house is slightly altered from its condition and appearance at the time of previous survey. The massive, external stone chimney and dormers on the west portions of the house are no longer extant.

In addition to the main house and the ruins of the outbuildings discussed in the form, the property includes four additional outbuildings. All of the buildings are located west of the main house. Two of the outbuildings are stables with a metal covered shed roof and vertical wood siding. These two outbuildings are located to the northwest and southwest from the rear of the house. A garage is located south of the stables and southwest of the main house. The garage has a metal covered shed roof and vertical wood siding. A barn is located west of the outbuildings and the house. It has a gable roof and vertical wood siding.

National Register Evaluation:

Willow Grove, constructed in several phases beginning circa 1830, is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C, as an intact vernacular farm complex, including an I-house, a barn, two stables, a garage and the ruins of other outbuildings. Character defining features of the main house, such as a central, portico-covered entrance, symmetrical fenestration pattern and simple ornamentation, possess excellent integrity. Willow Grove retains good site integrity despite the reduction of its land holdings to 3.64 hectares (9 acres) and the period of significance of the property extends from circa 1830 to 1947. The property is not eligible under Criterion A, as research conducted indicates no association with any historic events or trends significant in the development of national, state or local history. Historic research indicates that the property has no association with persons who have made specific contributions to history, and therefore, it does not meet Criterion B. In addition, it has no known potential to yield important information, and therefore, does not meet Criterion D.

Verbal Boundary Description and Justification:

The National Register boundaries of Willow Grove follow the current property lines of 16301 Batchellor's Forest Road (Tax Map HS562, Lot/Block #P141). This 22.09 hectare (8.94 acre) parcel is bounded on the all sides by adjacent tax parcels. The boundary includes the main house, a barn, two stables, a garage and the foundations of a barn and a spring house, all of which contribute to the significance of the property. According to the Old Homes and History of Montgomery County, Maryland by Roger Brooke Farquar, the original property contained a part of the tract of land known as Bradfords Rest and an additional 18.21 hectares (45 acres). In 1957, the main house and the 22.09 hectare (8.94 acre) parcel was sold, while the remaining land was subdivided. The current parcel retains the rural character of the property, with more recent development not visible from the long driveway to the house.

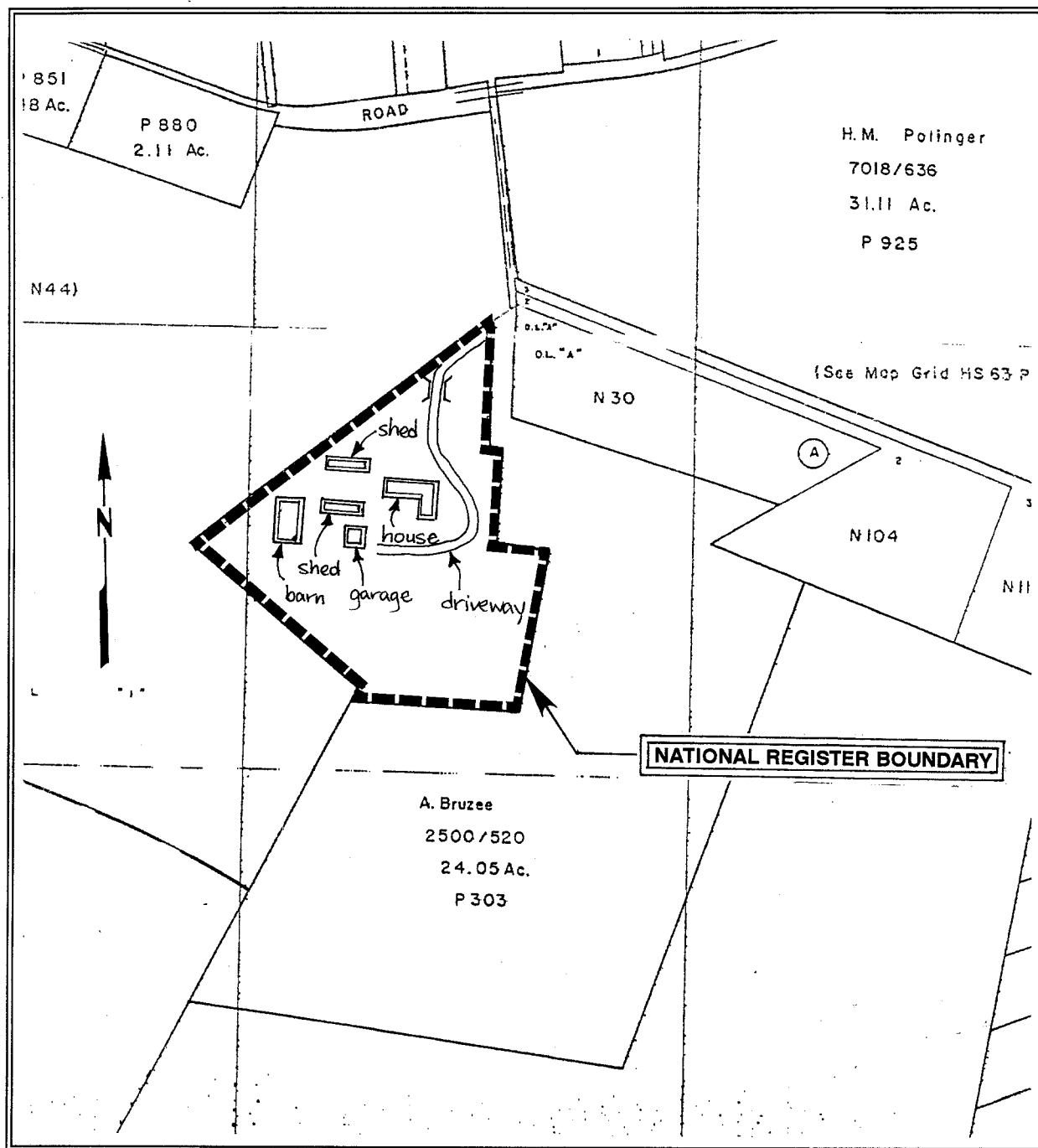
Preparer:
P.A.C. Spero & Company
October 1996

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST ADDENDUM SHEET
INTERCOUNTY CONNECTOR PROJECT**

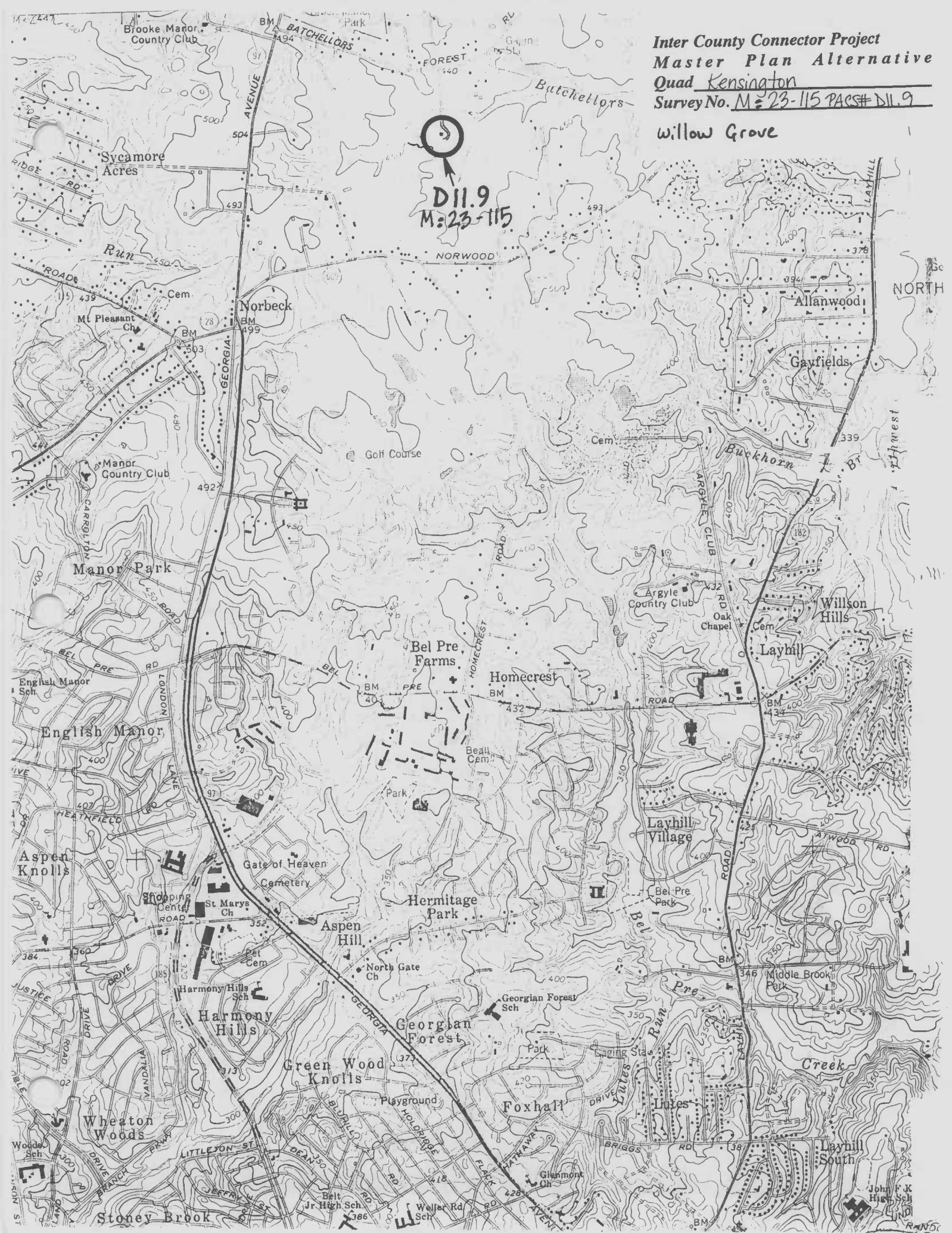
Property Name: Willow Grove
Survey No.: M:23-115 (PACS D11.9)

Property Address 16301 Batchellor's Forest Road, Olney, Montgomery County, Maryland
Owner Name/Address Albert L. and M.S. Lauer/16301 Batchellor's Forest Road, Olney, MD 20832
Year Built circa 1830

Resource Sketch Map and National Register Boundary Map:



Inter County Connector Project
Master Plan Alternative
Quad Kensington
Survey No. M-23-115 PACS# D11.9
willow Grove





1 M: 23-115

2 Willow Grove

3 Montgomery County

4 Tim Tamburino

5 February 1996

6 PAC Spew and Company, Towson MD

7 16301 Batchellers Forest Road

front elevation

8 1/1



1 M: 23-115

2 Willow Grove

3 Montgomery County
+ Tim Tamburino

5 February 1996

6 PAC Spens and Company, Towson MD

7 16301 Batchellors Forest Rd.

8 2/4 north elevation



- 1 M-23-115
- 2 Willow Grove
- 3 Montgomery County
- 4 Tim Tamburro
- 5 February 1996
- 6 PAC Speco and Company, Towson MD
- 7 16301 Batchellors Forest Rd.
near elevation
- 8 3/4



- 1 11:23-15
- 2 Willow Grove
- 3 Montgomery County
- 4 Tim Tamburino
- 5 February 1996
- 6 PAC Speco and Company, Towson MD
- 7 16301 Batchellor's Forest Road
South elevation
- 8 4/7



- 1 M: 23-115
- 2 Willow Grove
- 3 Montgomery County
- 4 Tim Tamburino
- 5 February 1996
- 6 PAC Spino and Company, Towson MD
- 7 16301 Batchellor's Forest Rd.
outbuildings
- 8 5/7



- 1 M: 23-115
- 2 Willow Grove
- 3 Montgomery County
- 4 Tim Tamburino
- 5 February 1996
- 6 PAC Spuro and Company, Towson MD
- 7 16301 Batchellor's Forest Rd.
barn
- 8 6/7



1 M: 23-115

2 Willow Grove

3 Montgomery County

4 Tim Tamburino

5 February 1996

6 PAC Spew and Company, Towson MD

716301 Batchellors Forest Rd.

8 7/7 outbuilding

Willow Grove
M:23-115
Montgomery County, Maryland

Willow Grove, a circa 1850 farmhouse and its attendant buildings, including a large barn, a chicken house, and spring house, is located on an approximately eight-acre site off of Bachellors Forest Road in northeastern Montgomery County. The main farmhouse is a transitional Federal/Greek Revival-style, 2-1/2 story, center-passage frame house with a two-story rear ell, and notable interior detailing.

Willow Grove was constructed by Quaker Roger Brooke VI, a direct descendent of James Brooke, a Quaker convert, the first settler to the Sandy Spring area, and one of the founding members of Sandy Spring Friends Meeting. The property, which provides a historical link to one of the founding families in the county, also retains its original farmhouse in excellent condition, and its agricultural character. In addition, the house provides an excellent expression of a transitional Federal/Greek Revival-style dwelling from the period. Willow Grove meets Criteria A and C of the Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties and the National Register of Historic Places.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
MD INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Inventory No. M-23-115

=====

1. Name of Property

=====

historic name Willow Grove

common/other name _____

=====

2. Location

=====

street & number 16301 Batchellor Forest Rd. Not for publication
city or town Olney vicinity X state Maryland code MD
county Montgomery code _____ zip code 20832

=====

3. State/Federal Agency Certification N/A

=====

4. National Park Service Certification N/A

=====

5. Classification

=====

Ownership of Property (Check all that apply)

☒ private
☐ public-local
☐ public-State
☐ public-Federal

Category of Property (Check only one box)

☒ building(s)
☐ district
☐ site
☐ structure
☐ object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing Noncontributing

<u>4</u>	<u>1</u>	buildings
_____	_____	sites
_____	_____	structures
_____	_____	objects
<u>4</u>	<u>1</u>	Total

Is this property listed in the National Register?

Yes _____ Name of Listing _____ No X

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties
Willow Grove
Montgomery County, Maryland

Inventory No. M-23-115

Page 2

=====

6. Function or Use

=====

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: <u>DOMESTIC</u>	Sub: <u>Single Dwelling</u>
<u>AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE</u>	<u>Barn; Equipment Sheds;</u>
	<u>Chicken House</u>

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: <u>DOMESTIC</u>	Sub: <u>Single Dwelling</u>
<u></u>	<u></u>
<u></u>	<u></u>

=====

7. Description

=====

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

Federal

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Stone

roof Gable: Standing Seam Metal

walls wood: weatherboard

other

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property.)

See Continuation Sheet No. 7-1

=====

8. Statement of Significance

=====

Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- ☐ A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- ☐ B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- ☒ C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- ☐ D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

- ☐ A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- ☐ B removed from its original location.
- ☐ C a birthplace or a grave.
- ☐ D a cemetery.
- ☐ E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- ☐ F a commemorative property.
- ☐ G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties
Willow Grove
Montgomery County, Maryland

Inventory No. M-23-115
Page 4

=====
Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Period of Significance circa 1850

Significant Dates circa 1850

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Cultural Affiliation _____

Architect/Builder _____

Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property.)

See Continuation Sheet No. 8-1

=====

9. Major Bibliographical References

=====

(Cite the books, articles, legal records, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

Barrow, Healan and Kristine Stevens, *Olney: Echoes of the Past* (Westminster, MD.: Family Line Publications), 1993.

Farquhar, Roger Brooke, *Old Homes and History of Montgomery County, MD.* Silver Spring, MD., 1952, 1962.

Mutual Assurance society records, Montgomery County Historical Society.

Montgomery County Land Records, Montgomery County, Maryland.

Sandy Spring Museum, Vertical Files.

Maps and Drawings and Photographs

Hopkins, G.M., *Atlas of Fifteen Miles around Washington, including the County of Montgomery, Maryland*, 1879.

Martenet and Bond's, *Map of Montgomery County*, 1865.

=====

10. Geographical Data

=====

Acreage of Property 8.94 acres

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

Willow Grove occupies Parcel 141 on Montgomery County Tax Map HS 562.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

This parcel is part of a larger tract of land that has been associated with the property since the 18th century.

=====

11. Form Prepared By

=====

name/title Kimberly Williams/Michele Naru, Architectural Historians
organization M-NCPPC date 6-28-99
street & number 8787 Georgia Avenue telephone 301/563-3403
city or town Silver Spring state MD zip code 20910

=====

12. Property Owner

=====

name John and Kathy Lyons
street & number 16301 Batchellor's Forest Road
telephone 301-570-5577 City or town Olney State MD Zip code 20832

=====

INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
CONTINUATION SHEET
Section 7 Page 1

Inventory No. M-23-115
Willow Grove
name of property
Montgomery County, MD
county and state

=====

Willow Grove, a circa 1850 farmhouse and its attendant buildings, including a large barn, a chicken house, and spring house, is located on an approximately eight-acre site off of Batchellors Forest Road in northeastern Montgomery County. The property, which retains its original farmhouse and its agricultural character, survives as a good example of a mid-19th century farm property in Montgomery County.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

Built circa 1850¹, and designed in a transitional Federal/Greek Revival style, Willow Grove is a two-story, three-bay, center-passage frame dwelling with a two-story rear ell. Set upon a slightly raised stone foundation, the L-shaped building has weatherboard siding, is covered with a cross gable roof, sheathed with standing seam metal², and features three brick interior end chimneys. A two-story shed-roofed wing of uncertain date fills in the intersection of the two wings, while a contemporary (1997), two-story, gable-roofed kitchen addition with shed-roof extension projects off of the original end wall of the rear ell. A one-story, glazed porch addition against the side wall of the rear ell dates to the mid-20th century.³ The contemporary additions are compatible with the historic structure in terms of scale, materials and details.

¹ This date is based upon a March 1850 Mutual Fire Insurance Policy on Willow Grove that describes the dwelling as "dwelling of frame and of recent construction...". A later policy on the property, dated 1885, describes the roof of the dwelling as being 38 years old. This would put the date of construction of the roof (and most likely, the house) at 1847. Based upon these findings, a circa 1850 date of construction has been attributed to the dwelling. A circa 1850 date is also consistent with the transitional Federal/Greek Revival style interior features. (See the Mutual Fire Insurance Policy #409, March 1850; and Policy #13868, 1885.

² According to the March 1850 Mutual Fire Insurance Policy on Willow Grove, the roof was originally covered with wood shingles. A 1913 policy lists the roof as being covered in metal "in good condition." See Mutual Fire Insurance Company, Policy #53396.

³ This glazed porch sits on a rubble stone foundation and encloses a trap door to the cellar of the house. This glazed porch was probably part of the original rear porch to the house, described in the 1850 Mutual Fire Insurance Policy as a rear porch measuring 50 feet by 8 feet and "forming an elbow."

INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
CONTINUATION SHEET
Section 7 Page 2

Inventory No. M-23-115
Willow Grove
name of property
Montgomery County, MD
county and state

=====

Exterior:

The east elevation is divided into three bays with a central entry and flanking 6/6 windows on the first story and three single, 6/6 windows on the second story. The front entry, identified by a gable-roofed and vaulted entry porch⁴, features an elegant Federal-style fanlight and sidelights, and a four-paneled wood door, consisting of two, long and narrow panels in the body of the door, and two square panels in the upper level. Delicately carved narrow pilasters with fluting form the architrave of the door and separate it from the sidelights. The windows on this elevation are all the original pegged 6/6 sash with their original louvered shutters.

Two vertical boards in the weatherboard siding located on either side of the central entry, at the inside edge of the flanking windows, extend from the top of the foundation level to the sill of the second story windows. These boards, which appear original, may have been associated with an earlier porch on the house, visible on an undated photograph of Willow Grove. There is no other apparent explanation for these vertical boards.

The south elevation of the house includes the south end wall of the main block of the house and the south side elevation of the rear wing. Between these two wings at their intersection is a two-story, shed-roof frame wing. This wing, clad with weatherboard siding which extends uninterrupted to the end wall of the main wing of the house, is well-integrated to the main structure. Its date of construction is uncertain.⁵

The end wall of the main block has single 6/6 windows towards the rear of the wall in both the first and second stories, and two 6-light casement windows in the attic end. The inside end chimney is located on center of the wall, rising above the roofline at the ridge. The shed-roof extension to this end wall has a pair of 6/6 windows on the first story and a single 6/6 window on the second story.

⁴ This front porch is a mid-20th-century replacement. It's design was based upon the porch that stood at the time of its replacement, though this porch was also a replacement of an earlier one. Historic photos indicate that a shed-roof porch preceded the gable-roofed design.

⁵ The previous owners of Willow Grove contend that this two-story wing was actually the original structure on the site, and that it was later enlarged by the L-house. Other than some hewn joists in the basement under this wing, there is no surviving architectural evidence to support this theory. Rather, it was probably part of the original rear porch described in the 1850 fire insurance policy that was later enclosed (mid-to-late 19th century) and raised a story.

INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
CONTINUATION SHEET
Section 7 Page 3

Inventory No. M-23-115
Willow Grove
name of property
Montgomery County, MD
county and state

=====

The south side elevation of the rear ell has a 6/6 window and a single door which open onto the glazed porch addition built against this elevation. The second story of the rear ell has a single 6/6 window. However, there may have been another window at this level that is obscured by the two-story "elbow" wing that abuts this side wall.

The north elevation consists of the gable end wall of the main wing, the three-bay deep wall surface of the rear ell, and the side wall of the contemporary addition, with its shed extension. The end wall has two single, 6/6 windows in the rear bay on the first and second stories, and two 6-light casement windows in the attic level. The chimney rises above this wall surface, on center at the ridge line. The rear ell is flush with the end wall of the main wing, and the weatherboard continuous. This ell has three 6/6 windows on the second story and two 6/6 windows on the first story. A small, square window opening is located between the 6/6 windows on the first story.

The west elevation of the house is occupied by the contemporary kitchen addition. This addition is a two-story frame structure clad with weatherboard siding and covered with a gable roof, whose steep pitch imitates that of the main houses.⁶ The windows in the addition follow the 6/6 configuration, and the roof is covered with standing seam metal, also like that of the main house. The shed extension is a treatment that is readily seen in the 19th-century vernacular landscape of the region.

Interior:

The interior of Willow Grove has a center-passage, single-pile plan and a rear service wing. The interior retains a high degree of integrity in that much of the detailing, including stair, mantels, window and door moldings, and floors are original and in excellent condition.

The central entry leads directly into the center passage with a straight-flight stair located against the north side wall. The open-stringer stair features an elegant turned newel, typical of the mid-19th century⁷, delicately turned and tapered balusters,

⁶ The 1997 addition also involved removing the original end wall of the rear ell, and extending the historic kitchen out several feet.

⁷ The stair is transitional Federal/Greek Revival in style. It no longer features an attenuated turned or square newel post typical of the Federal era,

INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
CONTINUATION SHEET
Section 7 Page 4

Inventory No. M-23-115
Willow Grove
name of property
Montgomery County, MD
county and state

=====

stringer ornament and a paneled wall. The banister railing is almost fully round. Similar stair detailing, including the turned newel and round railing, can be found at Riverton (M:23-90) a nearby property built by 1848.

The passage, laid with its original random-width floors, leads either directly back to the rear service wing, up the stairs to the second floor, or through six-paneled wood doors into the parlor and dining room to either side. Both of the front rooms have fireplaces centered on their exterior end walls; that in the dining room being original and having a plain frieze board with a recessed panel, side pilasters, and a small china closet fitted into the side wall of the chimney breast. The mantel in the living room is less refined and seems out of place, though it closely resembles the mantels on the second floor. It has a wide frieze board, sturdy pilasters and a heavy mantel shelf.

All of the trim in the main wing of the house is square-edged with unadorned, and rather elemental, square corner blocks. The hardware consists mainly of metal lock boxes with the manufacturers medallion. The medallion on one of the dining room lock boxes has the date 1869 inscribed on it.⁸

The rear ell includes a service stair leading to the second floor service rooms, the original kitchen, as extended in 1997, and a "keeping room." The service stair is a steep, straight-flight stair with tongue and groove paneling, a plain square newel post, and two, 2" x 4" railings tenoned into it. The kitchen, a large open space with a brick chimney against its interior end wall, was enlarged from its original configuration during the 1997 renovation by the removal of the original west end wall. The chimney breast is brick, laid in random coursing, and features a jack-arched brick lintel over the fireplace opening. The "keeping room" located in the space between the front dining room and the rear kitchen, shares the central brick chimney with the kitchen. This room, significantly altered during the 1997 renovation, now features a fully paneled fireplace wall.

The second floor of the house has two bedrooms, bath and stair hall in the main wing and two bedrooms and a bath in the rear ell. The front bedrooms have fireplaces, located on center of their exterior walls, that feature similar wood mantels with plain, wide frieze boards and side pilasters.

pronounced moldings of later Greek examples.

⁸ This 1869 date corresponds with a \$700 increase to the fire insurance policy held on the property and may indicate a period of interior improvements.

INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
CONTINUATION SHEET
Section 7 Page 5

Inventory No. M-23-115
Willow Grove
name of property
Montgomery County, MD
county and state

=====

The doors on the second floor are typically six-paneled with lock boxes, and feature square-edged trim with corner blocks and interior beading.

The attic level of the house is actually a finished half-story, reached by the continuation of the main stair in all its elaborateness. From this finished space, which includes a stair landing and rooms to either side, the roof framing systems over both the main wing and rear ell are visible. The roof over the main wing consists of a system of common rafters, measuring 4-1/2" x 3" and located two-feet on center. The rafters sit atop a false board plate and are pegged at the ridge. Several rafters, which suffered fire damage, have sister rafters next to them. The roof over the rear ell consists of a series of common rafters with collar ties, rabbeted into the rafters. The rafters measure 4" x 2-3/4" and the collars, 4" x 2". The rafters sit upon a board false plate and are pegged at the ridge. All of the rafters have roman numerals inscribed on them. The roof over the rear ell appears to have been constructed at the same time as the main roof, indicating that this rear wing is an original feature of the house.

Agricultural Buildings and Domestic Outbuildings

A group of several agricultural buildings are located on the property, including a barn, a chicken house, and a spring house.

Chicken House: The chicken house/equipment shed is a long, one-story frame structure covered with a shed roof and built circa 1913. The chicken house is clad on the rear wall with vertical board walls, while the front is open. The interior is divided into a series of rooms, now used for storage. Another chicken house which was located on line with this one was dismantled and its materials used during the renovation of the house.

Barn: A large frame barn measuring 50' x 30' is located furthest from the house, beyond the chicken house. The barn is a timber frame structure set upon a concrete foundation and covered with a gable roof with a hay hood. Probably originally constructed during this century (based upon the poured concrete foundation), the barn was renovated in 1998.

Spring House: The spring house, measuring 18' x 18' is located next to the drive leading into the property. Built circa 1850⁹, it is

⁹ Based upon its measurements and its relationship to the house, the spring house appears to be the building identified as an ice house on the 1850 Mutual

INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
CONTINUATION SHEET
Section 7 Page 6

Inventory No. M-23-115
Willow Grove
name of property
Montgomery County, MD
county and state

=====

a stone structure, built into an embankment over its water source. It is covered with an overhanging gable roof with weatherboarding in the gable end. The roof is sheathed with corrugated metal, under which are wood shingles. A door in the front wall of the stone structure leads into the cool spring house.

Garage: A three-car garage, constructed using the foundation, frame and reused sheathing boards of an existing structure on the site, has just recently been completed. It is located just north of the main house, and is designed in keeping with the architectural character of the property.

Fire Insurance policy. The ice house is described as being 33 yards northwest of the dwelling and measuring 18' x 18'.

INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
CONTINUATION SHEET
Section 8 Page 1

Inventory No. M-23-115
Willow Grove
name of property
Montgomery County, MD
county and state

=====

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Willow Grove, located at 16301 Batchellors Forest Road in Olney, MD, was constructed by Quaker Roger Brooke VI, a direct descendent of James Brooke, Quaker convert and founding member of Sandy Spring Friends Meeting. The property, which provides a historical link to one of the founding families in the county, also retains its original farmhouse in excellent condition, and its agricultural character. In addition, the house provides an excellent expression of a transitional Federal/Greek Revival-style dwelling from the period. Willow Grove meets Criteria A and C of the Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties and of the National Register of Historic Places.

Historic Context

The land on which Willow Grove was constructed was originally part of the extensive "Bradford's Rest" land grant patented in 1718 for Major John Bradford.¹⁰ Roger Brooke V and Philip Dennis acquired a large portion of this tract in the early 19th century.¹¹ In 1829, Philip Dennis conveyed "Part of lot 16 of the tract designated Bradford's Rest" totaling 15 acres to his son, Philip Dennis, Jr.¹²

In 1840, Roger Brooke, V, a Quaker and direct descendent of James Brooke, founder of the Sandy Spring Meeting of Friends (1753), conveyed to his son, Roger Brooke VI, 276 acres of "Bradford's Rest." Roger Brooke, VI had married Sarah Pleasants in 1835,¹³ and as a wedding gift, Roger Brooke V gave the land to his son and his new bride.¹⁴ In 1842, Roger Brooke VI purchased an additional two parcels of land totaling 45 acres from Philip Dennis, Jr, bringing

¹⁰Farquhar, Willow Grove, pg. 323.

¹¹ Roger Brooke Farquhar, in *Historic Montgomery County Maryland: Old Homes and History* (1952, 1962) states that the previous owner of the property, Philip Denis, is known to have lived on the land, and is believed to have built the house on the site. Recent research into Mutual Fire Insurance Records, however, indicates that the house was built circa 1850, under the ownership of Roger Brooke VI (signed Roger Brooke, jr.).

¹²Montgomery County Courthouse, Deed Book BS2 Folio 342

¹³Farquhar, Willow Grove, pg. 323.

¹⁴Montgomery County Courthouse, Deed Book BS 10 Folio 182

INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
CONTINUATION SHEET
Section 8 Page 2

Inventory No. M-23-115
Willow Grove
name of property
Montgomery County, MD
county and state

=====

his total land holdings in the vicinity to 321 acres.¹⁵

In March 1850, Roger Brooke, VI (named Roger Brooke, Jr. at the time), took out a fire insurance policy with the Mutual Fire Insurance Company of Montgomery County on his property, Willow Grove.¹⁶ The policy includes insurance on a dwelling house, barn, and contents of barn. The dwelling is described as "a dwelling of frame and of recent construction ... front building 44 feet by 20 feet with back building attached 28 feet by 20 feet, 3 chimneys, and 6 fireplaces."¹⁷ The policy further describes the house as having two porches, front and back; lathed and plastered throughout with the exception of the garret; and covered with cypress shingles. The house was valued at \$2,500 and insured for \$1,500.00.

The policy describes the barn as being 123 feet south of the dwelling and measuring 45 feet by 30 feet with an overjet. The total amount insured against fire, including the house, barns, and their contents was for \$2,200.

Based upon this policy, it is appears that Roger Brooke VI built the house presently standing on the property around 1850, along with the barn. In 1861, following his father's death and in accordance with his will, Roger Brooke VI inherited again more land in the vicinity, including "the land on which he lives and ½ of part of Bradford's Rest on which Hazel Cashell lives."¹⁸ During the Civil War, and according to Mary Coffin Brooke's, *Memories of Eighty Years*, when General Joseph Hooke's brigade of Union soldiers were en route from their camp at Fair Hill to Rockville, the soldiers apparently stuffed their knapsacks with potatoes from "the nearby farm, Willow Grove."¹⁹ The 1865 *Martenet and Bond Map of Montgomery County* clearly shows the property with Roger Brooke's name next to it.

Roger Brooke VI and Sarah Pleasants Brooke had a family of children including six boys and three girls. Of these, two boys died before

¹⁵Montgomery County Courthouse, Deed Book BS 11 Folio 261

¹⁶ Mutual Fire Insurance Company, Policy #409.

¹⁷ This description, save for the front and rear porches, perfectly describes the dwelling today.

¹⁸Montgomery County Courthouse, Deed Book JWS 1 Folio 73

¹⁹ Barrow and Stevens, *Olney: Echoes of the Past*, 58.

INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
CONTINUATION SHEET
Section 8 Page 3

Inventory No. M-23-115
Willow Grove
name of property
Montgomery County, MD
county and state

=====

maturity. Roger Brooke VI died at the age of fifty-eight in March, 1868.²⁰ Willow Grove was inherited by Alban Brooke, the youngest son of Roger and Sarah. Alban married Sarah E. Pleasants, a cousin from Virginia and they lived at Willow Grove until 1913.²¹ Although Roger Brooke had died in 1868, the 1879 Hopkins *Atlas of Montgomery County* still identifies the property with his name.

During Alban and Sarah Brooke's ownership of the property, several increases to the prepared fire insurance policy were written to insure several domestic outbuildings not included in the original policy.²² The property was insured for a total of \$5,000, with the dwelling insured for \$2,250 of that total.

In February 1869, a policy change included a \$750 increase on the dwelling, a \$300 on household furniture, a \$450 increase on the barn and shed and a \$100 increase on the hay and grain in the barn. In 1879, a new policy was written by Alban and Sarah Brooke. The amount insured against fire totaled \$5,000. Finally, in 1885, the policy was re-written, but remained insured for the same amount.

In 1913, Tarlton Brooke, Alban and Sarah's son, acquired Willow Grove.²³ Tarlton Brooke was an advocate of the Charter movement for Montgomery County. He was one of the first to push this reform of the county government beginning in 1938. He served on the Charter committee until his death on election day in 1946.²⁴

During Tarlton Brooke's ownership, the farming operations at Willow Grove appear to have been focused on the poultry industry. Between 1913 and 1915, Tarlton took out another fire insurance policy, this one insuring not only the dwelling, barns and domestic outbuildings included on the previous policies, but \$100 on a hen house; \$187 on 500 chickens; \$100 on five incubators; and \$150 on 10 "Colony Houses." Based upon this insurance policy, it appears that the chicken house still standing on the property was built circa 1913.

Tarlton Brooke's widow, Eloise Pleasants Brooke lived at Willow

²⁰Farquhar, Willow Grove, pg. 323.

²¹Montgomery County Courthouse, Deed Book BS 10 Folio 182

²² Mutual Fire Insurance Company of Montgomery County, Policy # 9650; 13868; 53396; and 63624.

²³Montgomery County Courthouse, Deed Book 238 Folio 197

²⁴Farquhar, Willow Grove, pg. 324

INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
CONTINUATION SHEET
Section 8 Page 4

Inventory No. M-23-115
Willow Grove
name of property
Montgomery County, MD
county and state

=====

Grove until 1955 when she conveyed the house and the 102 acres of the land to Charles V. Little.²⁵ The following year, Charles Little sold 33 acres of the 102 acres of land to the Maryland Land and Cattle Co.,²⁶ which in turn sold it to the Archer Daniels Midland Co.²⁷

Two years later, Archer Daniels Midland Co. sold the 33 acres of land to Alan Brazee.²⁸ Mr. Brazee subdivided the land and sold a nine-acre parcel with the house intact to Mr. and Mrs Albert Lauer.²⁹

Albert Lauer was the Head Auditor of the U.S. District Court of the District of Columbia. Mr. Lauer and his family of two daughters and four sons, lived at Willow Grove for 38 years.³⁰

The current owners, Mr. John and Mrs. Kathy Lyons, have just recently completed a major renovation of and addition to Willow Grove.

²⁵Montgomery County Courthouse, Deed Book 2072 Folio 390

²⁶Montgomery County Courthouse, Deed Book 2246 Folio 74

²⁷Montgomery County Courthouse, Deed Book 2299 Folio 229

²⁸Montgomery County Courthouse, Deed Book 2500 Folio 520

²⁹Montgomery County Courthouse, Deed Book 2500 Folio 533

³⁰Farquhar, Willow Grove, pg. 324

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Inventory No. M-23-115

Willow Grove

name of property

Montgomery County, MD

county and state

=====

HISTORIC CONTEXT:

Geographic Organization: Piedmont

Chronological/Development Period (s): Agricultural-Industrial
Transition, 1815-1870

Prehistoric/Historic Period Theme (s):

Agriculture;

Architecture, Landscape Architecture and Community Planning

RESOURCE TYPE(S)

Category: Standing Structure

Historic Environment: Rural

Historic Function (s): Single Dwelling

Known Design Source:

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Inventory No. M-23-115
Willow Grove
name of property
Montgomery County, MD
county and state

=====

Chain of Title:

1718	Major John Bradford patented the land tract "Bradford's Rest". (Farquhar)
1821	Roger Brooke V acquired a large tract of land which was part of Bradford's Rest. (Farquhar)
September 10, 1829	Philip Dennis to Philip Dennis Jr. 15 acres. "Part of lot 16 of the tract designated Bradford's Rest." (Deed Book BS2 Folio 342)
April, 1835	Roger Brooke VI married Sarah Pleasants. (Farquhar)
May 9, 1840	Roger Brooke V conveys to Roger Brooke VI. "Part of Bradford's Rest. 276 acres. (Deed Book BS 10 Folio 182)
October 4, 1842	Philip Dennis to Roger Brooke VI. "Two Parcels of land in Bradford's Rest. Parcel #1 = 15 acres, Parcel #2 = 30 acres." (Deed Book BS 11 Folio 261)
January 11, 1861	Roger Brooke V died. (Sentinel, p.50)
January 8, 1861	"Roger Brooke V devises to his son Roger Brooke VI the land on which he lives, and .5 of part of Bradford's Rest on which Hazel Cashell lives." (Deed Book JWS 1 Folio 73)
March, 1868	Roger Brooke VI died.

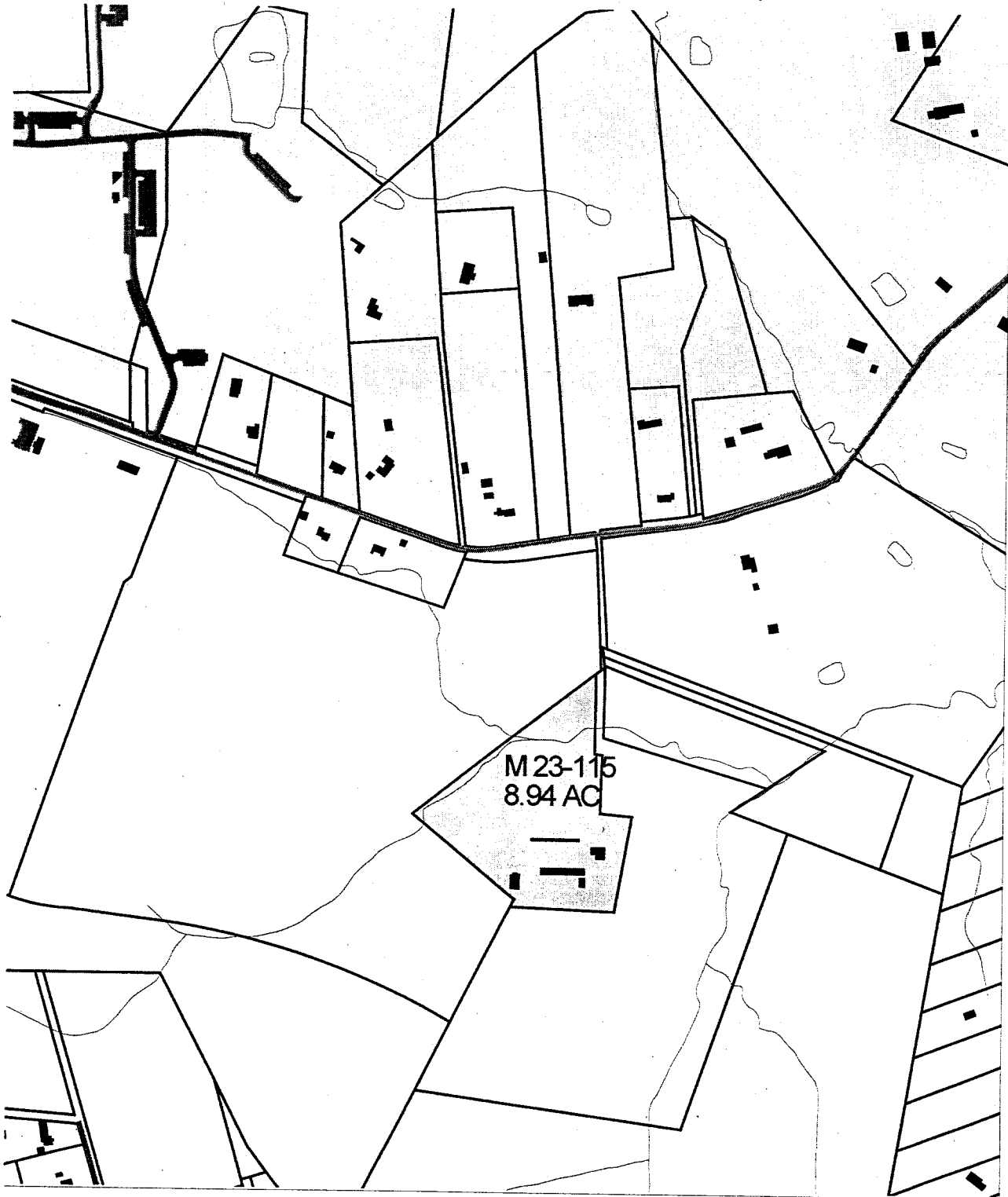
MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Inventory No. M-23-115
Willow Grove
name of property
Montgomery County, MD
county and state

=====

January 14, 1873	"Heirs of Roger Brooke VI convey to Alban Brooke." 135 acres. (Also identified as lot #1 of the division of the real estate of Roger Brooke V on May 9, 1840--Deed Book BS 10 Folio 182)
January 8, 1913	Alban Brooke conveys to his son, Tarleton Brooke. 135 acres. (Deed Book 238 Folio 197)
July 29, 1940	Tarleton Brooke acquires from William B. Prettyman 115 acres of land. (Deed Book 790 Folio 206)
June 1, 1955	Tarleton Brooke's widow, Eloise Pleasants Brooke sells the house and property to Charles V. Little. 102.948 acres. (Deed Book 2072 Folio 390)
August 14, 1956	Clifford V. Little et al convey to the Maryland Land and Cattle Co. 33 acres. (Deed Book 2246 Folio 74)
August 15, 1956	Maryland Land and Cattle Co. conveys to Archer Daniels Midland Co. 33 acres. (Deed Book 2299 Folio 229)
June 5, 1958	Archer Daniels Midland Co. conveys to Alan Brazee. 33 acres. (Deed Book 2500 Folio 520)
August 23, 1958	Alan Brazee to Albert L. and M.S.Lauer. 8.94 acres. (Deed Book 2500 Folio 533)
October 17, 1996	Albert L. Lauer to John H. and Kathy M. Lyons. 8.94 acres. (Deed Book 14438 Folio 338)

WILLOW GROVE (M 23-115)



Visual User Application



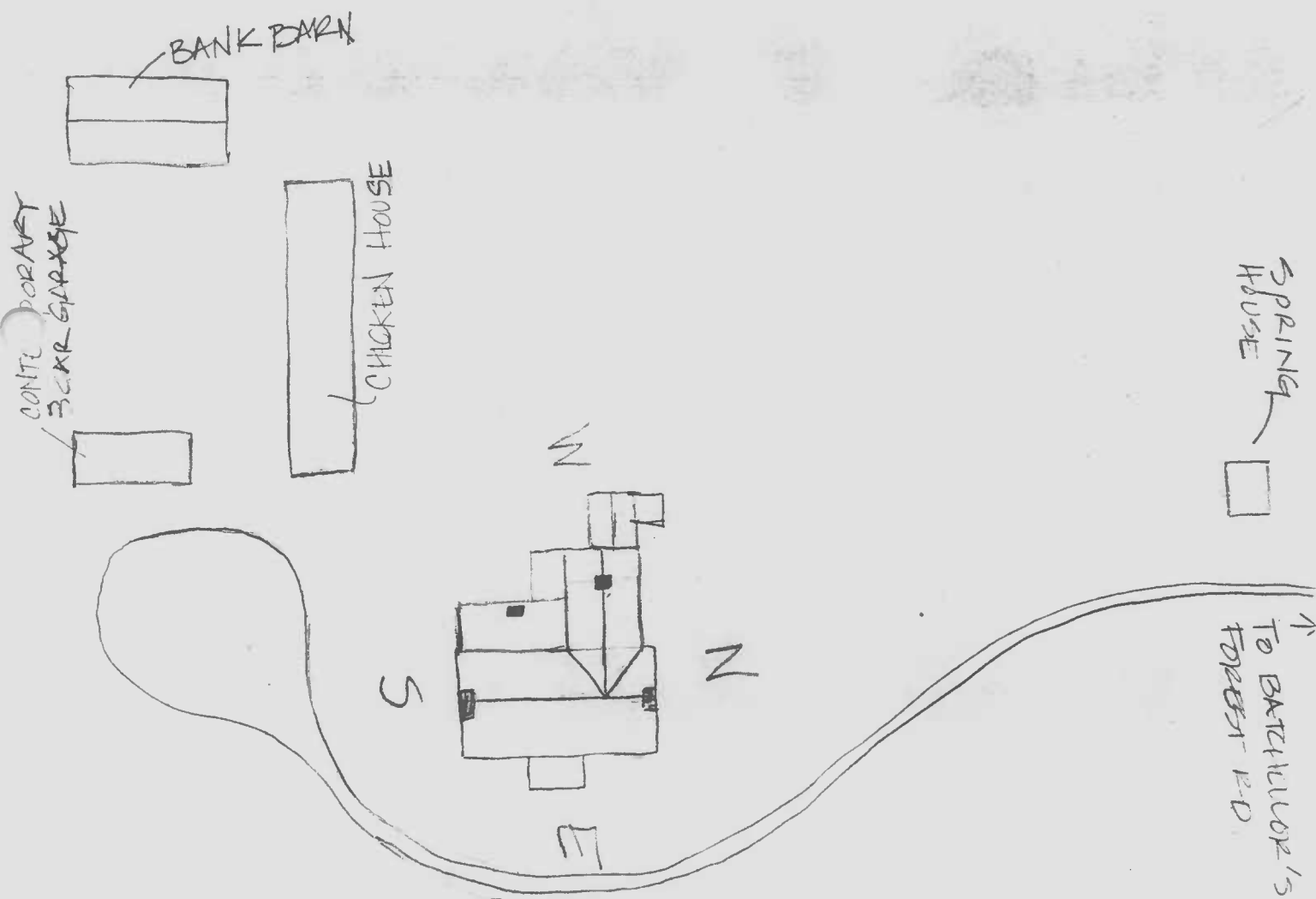
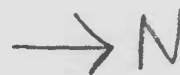
MONTGOMERY COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PARK AND PLANNING
THE MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION
8787 Georgia Avenue - Silver Spring, Maryland 20910-3760

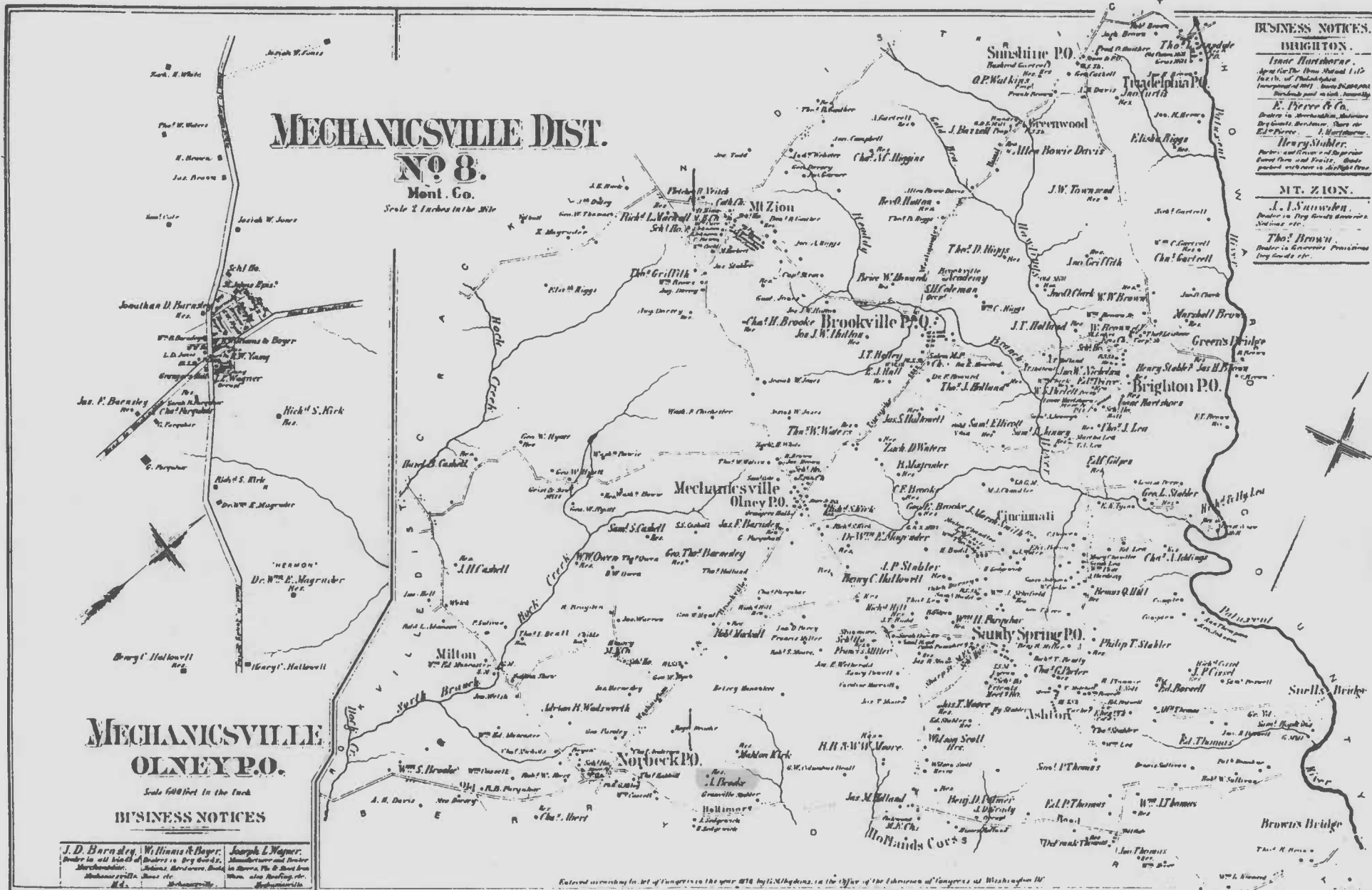


Scale 1" = 560'



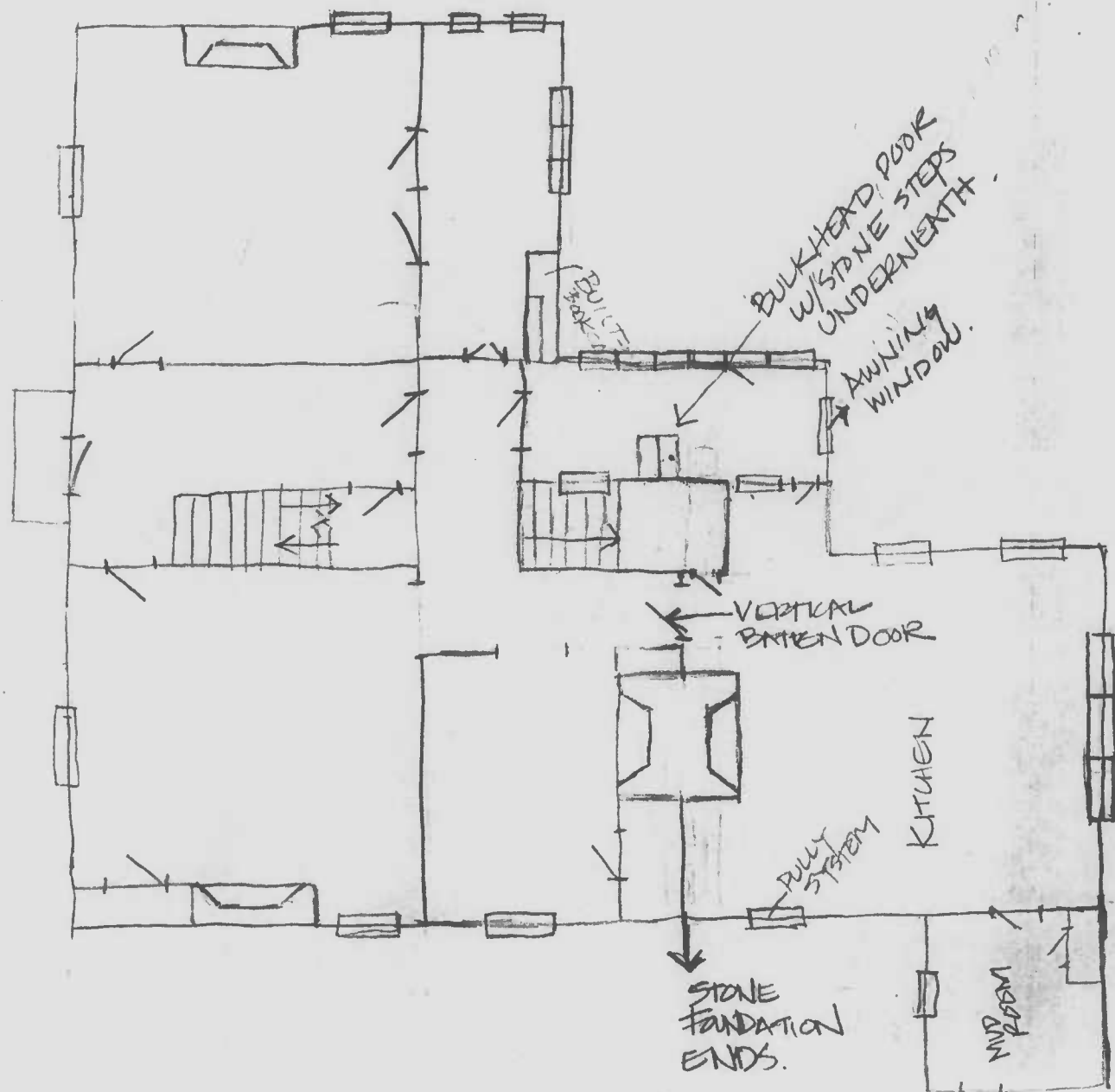
WILLOW GROVE
M: 23/115





Hopkins, G.M., comp. Atlas of Fifteen Miles around Washington, including the County of Montgomery, Maryland, 1879. Reprint. Rockville, MD.: Montgomery County Historical Society, 1975.

M.23-115



M.23-115
WILLOW GROVE
1ST FLOOR



Name: KENSINGTON
Date: 7/13/99
Scale: 1 inch equals 2000 feet

Location: 039° 05' 49.4" N 077° 03' 59.4" W
Caption: WILLOW GROVE (M: 23-115)
16301 Batchellor's Forest Rd



23-115

WILLOW GROVE

MONTGOMERY CO., MD

KIM WILLIAMS

5-13-99

MARYLAND SHPO

EAST ELEVATION

1 OF 12



M.
23-115

WILLOW GROVE

MONTGOMERY CO., MD

KIM WILLIAMS

5-13-99

MARYLAND SHPO

NORTH ELEVATION

2 OF 12



13 5'99

M.
23-115

WILLOW GROVE

MONTGOMERY CO., MD

KIM WILLIAMS

5-13-99

MARYLAND SHPO

SOUTH ELEVATION

3 OF 12



23-115

WILLOW GROVE

MONTGOMERY CO., MD

KIM WILLIAMS

5-13-00

MARYLAND SHPO

WEST ELEVATION

40F12



23-115

WILLOW GROVE

MONTGOMERY CO., MD

KIM WILLIAMS

5-13-99

MARYLAND SHPO

FRONT ENTRY; LOCATED ON EAST FACADE
5 of 12



M.
23-115
WILLOW GROVE
MONTGOMERY CO., MD
KIM WILLIAMS

5-13-99

MARYLAND SHPO

NEWEL; LOCATED IN FRONT ENTRY
6 OF 12



M:
23-115

WILLOW GROVE

MONTGOMERY CO., MD

KIM WILLIAMS

5-13-00

MARYLAND SHPO

MANTEL IN SOUTH PARLOR

7 of 12



13 5 98

23-115
WILLOW GROVE
MONTGOMERY CO., MD

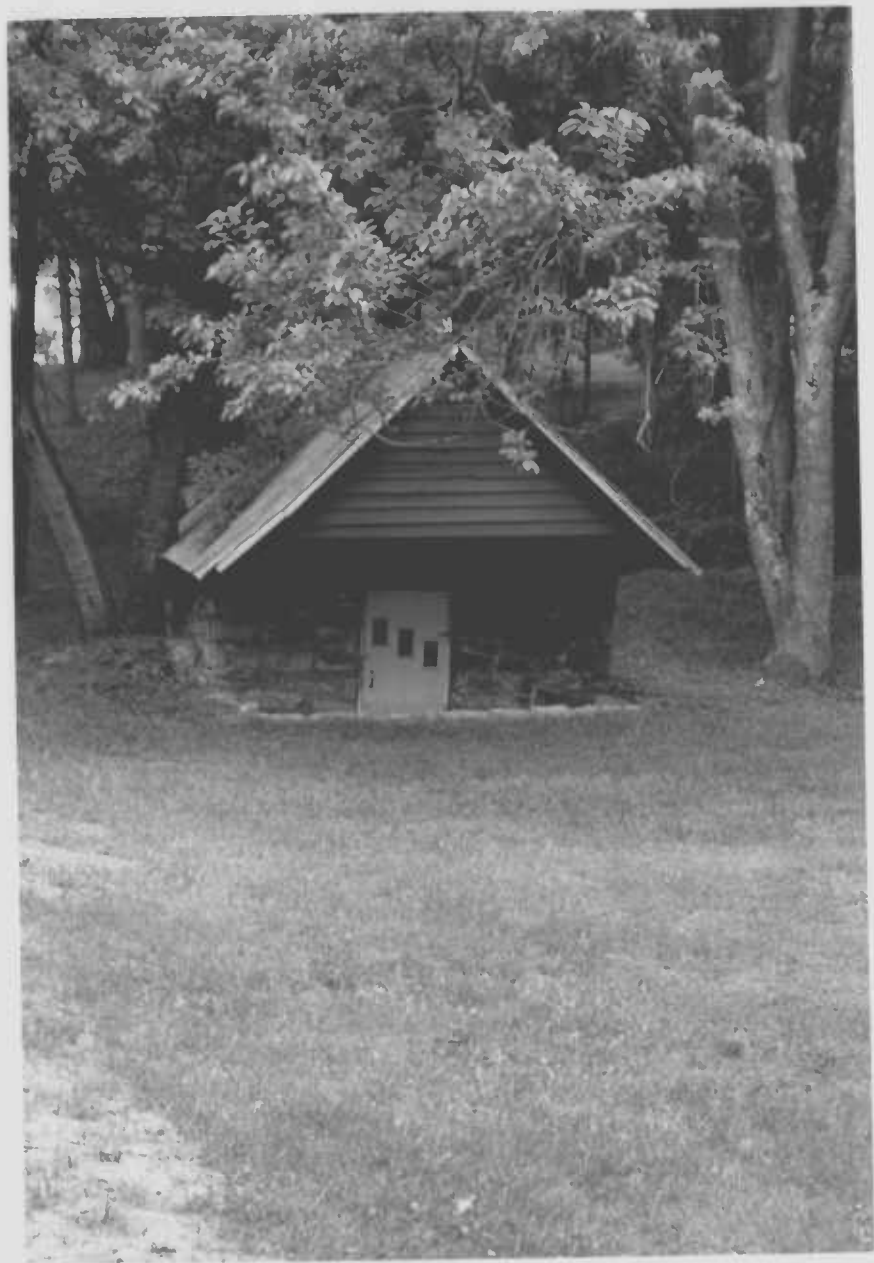
KIM WILLIAMS

5-13-99

MARYLAND SHPO

STARCASE IN NW ELL

8 OF 12



M.
23-115
WILLOW GROVE
MONTGOMERY CO., MD
KIM WILLIAMS
5-13-99

MARYLAND SHPO
SPRING HOUSE; LOCATED NORTH OF MAIN HOUSE
9 of 12



M:
23-115

WILLOW GROVE

MONTGOMERY CO., MD

KIM WILLIAMS

5-13-99

MARYLAND SHPO

CONTEMPORARY GARAGE LOCATED ON THE
FOUNDATION OF A HISTORIC BARN

10 OF 12



^M
23-115

WILLOW GROVE

MONTGOMERY CO., MD

KIM WILLIAMS

5-13-99

MARYLAND SHPO

CHICKEN HOUSE; LOCATED SW OF MAIN HOUSE

11 of 12



M.
23-115

WILLOW GROVE

MONTGOMERY CO., MD

KIM WILLIAMS

5-13-99

MARYLAND SHPO

VIEW OF BANK BARN; LOCATED SW OF
MAIN HOUSE

12 OF 12

1606205404

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

NOMINATION FORM
for the
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE

1. NAME					
COMMON:					
AND/OR HISTORIC: Willow Grove					
2. LOCATION					
STREET AND NUMBER: 16301 Batchelor's Forest Road					
CITY OR TOWN: Olney					
STATE: Maryland			COUNTY: Montgomery		
3. CLASSIFICATION					
CATEGORY (Check One)		OWNERSHIP		STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building	<input type="checkbox"/> Public	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied	Yes:
<input type="checkbox"/> Site	<input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private		<input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> Restricted
<input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress		<input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments	
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious			
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific			
4. OWNER OF PROPERTY					
OWNER'S NAME: A.L. Lauer					
STREET AND NUMBER: 16301 Batchelor's Forest Road					
CITY OR TOWN: Olney			STATE: Maryland		
5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION					
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC: Montgomery County Courthouse					
STREET AND NUMBER:					
CITY OR TOWN: Rockville			STATE: Maryland		
Title Reference of Current Deed (Book & Pg. #):					
6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS					
TITLE OF SURVEY:					
DATE OF SURVEY: <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local					
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:					
STREET AND NUMBER:					
CITY OR TOWN:			STATE:		

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

M:23-115

7. DESCRIPTION	
CONDITION	(Check One)
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated <input type="checkbox"/> Ruins <input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div> (Check One) <input type="checkbox"/> Altered <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Uncolored </div> <div> (Check One) <input type="checkbox"/> Moved <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site </div> </div>
DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE	
<p>The house is built in two parts. It is a good example of the vernacular "Quaker style" (i.e.-clean, pleasing lines, but not ostentatious.) The main (east) facade is of three bays, with a central doorway. The door itself features a fanlight-transom and sidelights, and is covered with a hood-type portico with an arched ceiling that is supported by slim columns. Siding is of rough clapboards and all windows are 6/6, double-hung. The steep, A-roof is covered with tin, and the chimneys are internal at each end of the house. Small, twin windows (characteristic of the area) are found high in the north and south gable ends.</p> <p>Extending to the NW rear is a lower, two-story frame section with three bays on its main (north) facade. Like the main part, this is also clapboard and has internal chimneys.</p>	

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

M:23-115

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The house is built in several stages. The earliest section is the one-story log cabin on the west end. This primitive, door-and-window cabin is now weatherboarded, but the massive, external stone chimney can be seen on the west wall. The roof here is steeply-pitched, and two small windows flank the brick chimney stack on the west gable end.

The next section was built onto the east end of the cabin, ca. 1885. It consists of a two-story, four-bay part with a taller, two-bay part continuing on the east. There is one dormer in each of these sections, and the chimney stacks are of the stove-flue type. A shallow, one-story open porch crosses both parts.

Nearby are the ruins of a brick barn and a stone springhouse.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

M:23-115

B. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Phi- | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | losophy | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Human- | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | itarian | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

14:23-115

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Farquhar, R.B. OLD HOMES AND HOUSES OF MONT. CO., MD.
1962, pp.322-324.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

Acreage Justification:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:

Michael F. Dwyer, Senior Park Historian

ORGANIZATION

M-NCPPC

DATE

8/12/75

STREET AND NUMBER:

8787 Georgia Ave.

CITY OR TOWN:

Silver Spring

STATE

Maryland

12.

State Liaison Officer Review: (Office Use Only)

Significance of this property is:

National ☐ State ☐ Local ☐

Signature

M:23-115

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

R.B. Farquhar, OLD HOMES AND HOUSES OF MONT. CO., MD.
1962, pp. 324-326.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES			
CORNER	LATITUDE				LONGITUDE			
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds		Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	
NW	°	'	"	°	'	"	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds
NE	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'
SE	°	'	"	°	'	"		
SW	°	'	"	°	'	"		

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

Acreage Justification:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Michael F. Dwyer, Senior Park Historian		
ORGANIZATION M-NCPPC	DATE 8/12/75	
STREET AND NUMBER: 8787 Georgia Ave.		
CITY OR TOWN: Silver Spring	STATE Maryland	

12. State Liaison Officer Review: (Office Use Only)

Significance of this property is:

National ☐ State ☐ Local ☐

Signature

In their younger days (he is now aged 86) he and Mrs. Grosvenor travelled many thousands of miles into every continent all over the world.

His son, Melville Bell Grosvenor, has been Editor of the Geographic since 1954 when the Doctor (who remains Chairman of Board of Trustees) stepped aside. The son has built a beautiful home on Grosvenor Lane a short space west of the Wild Acres home of his parents.

It may be recalled that during the time when they bought the tract of land in 1912 and built the house in 1928-29 there was a farmhouse just in front of the present mansion to which they retreated occasionally from their home in Washington. Like so many city dwellers of today, they craved the chance to go back to nature in the seclusion of the woods and fields.

The present house is of random rubble rough stone, in the style of English Country manor houses. There is the center section with wings

on each side, and a slate roof. The grounds are a pleasing, rolling sward of lawn, with numerous trees scattered about, and cherished seclusion in the rear. Much of the place is heavily wooded, looking into unbroken woodland to the south.

Dr. Grosvenor's delights are his libraries, of which there are really three: one large general library, one of his own books, both on the second floor, and his secluded first-floor den.

In this unusual house there are 29 doors of solid Central American mahogany from Dr. Grosvenor's ancestral home in Worcester County, Massachusetts. Mantels and panelling in one library are from the Alexander Graham Bell house at 1331 Connecticut Ave., Washington, D.C., which house was torn down in 1927. The Grosvenor's home in the City was next door to it.

Willow Grove

AMONG several Brooke homesteads in the Sandy Spring community, Willow Grove, next to Brooke Grove, is perhaps filled with the most pleasant and interesting memories of several generations of this well known family. In spite of its isolation in the "horse and buggy days," Willow Grove was a center of delightful social activity, as well as a homestead where the "grim reaper" took his toll. It was a typical American home where strength of character was formed.

For well over one hundred years Willow Grove has been owned by Brookes. Located over half-a-mile from any highway, it can barely be seen on the road from Norbeck to Norwood.

Roger Brooke V of Brooke Grove, in the early part of the nineteenth century, was the owner of a vast amount of acreage in Montgomery County. His lands stretched from Sandy Spring to the north and northwest for several miles. In spite of this vast estate he acquired additional acreage in this area by purchase, and one of these other tracts was one on which Willow Grove is situated. He acquired some of this land in 1821.

Roger VI, son of Roger V of Brooke Grove, born at his father's homestead in November,

1810, married in April, 1835, Sarah Pleasants, a young lady from Virginia who was then twenty-one years of age. The father of the groom had purchased a large part of a tract known as Bradford's Rest, which was a land grant of



NO. 119 E-9 PHILIP DENNIS CA. 1830
FRAME

1718 to Major John Bradford. In addition, the room bought two tracts of a total of forty-five acres for \$500 from Philip Dennis. This is recorded in deeds dated 1842 at Rockville.

It is known that the Dennis family lived on that land before that date, and it is believed that they built at least part of the present house before 1835. Therefore, with these purchases of a plantation, the bride and groom established themselves at Willow Grove reasonably soon after their marriage. Roger Brooke V in his will dated June, 1861, devised to his son Roger VI "one half of my land on Bradford's Rest."

Roger VI and Sallie Pleasants Brooke had an interesting family of children including six boys and three girls. Of these, two boys, Tarleton and George, died before maturity. William S. married first Mary S. Hallowell, and settled at Avon on land owned by his grandfather. After the untimely death of his first wife he married Mary Coffin who was the teacher of unsurpassed influence in the lives of many young people in the neighborhood for over thirty years. (See Avon.)

Mary P. Brooke, the oldest daughter, died at an advanced age. Walter H. married Caroline Pegett of Long Island, New York, and first settled on a farm, where Brooke Johns lived, but their stay there was short. They lived for a time in Howard County, at Drumeldra, and finally in Ashton. Roger VII the doctor, married Louisa Thomas and settled at Glenwood on some of the grandfather's acreage. Deborah Brooke was unmarried and lived to an advanced age, while Alban, the youngest son, married Sarah E. Pleasants, a cousin from Virginia. He inherited Willow Grove.

Roger VI died at the age of fifty-eight years in March, 1868, and his most capable and much loved wife lived on there as a widow for twenty-five years, passing in April, 1893, at the age of seventy-nine. The death of Roger VI caused a wave of sorrow among his friends and neighbors by whom he was especially loved and admired. Many records of his benevolence, kindness, and good works have remained. One such act is recorded by William Henry Farquhar, the first historian and promoter of the Annals of Sandy Spring.

In 1838, Friend Farquhar, a struggling young married man at The Cedars drove his "poor little team afield with a little old plow, just as the sun was rising." And he continues, "What was

my surprise—to see three fine horses with a big plow and strong skillful driver enter—and begin to tear up the ground in a way that has done me good to recall ever since." The recipient of this kind act surmises, "no one can perform a better act than lending a little help just at the right time."

To Roger B. Farquhar, Sr., Willow Grove was like a second home during the years from 1860 until 1867 when he was keeping "Bachelor's Hall" at the big farm which later became known as Rock Spring. His diary, kept daily for fifty years, is full of references during those lonely years before marriage, such as "spent the night" or "had breakfast" or "stayed at Uncle Roger's to dinner." Literally scores of times such entries appear in this thirteen-volume diary during the time Roger Brooke Farquhar, Sr., lived alone at his home which he called "Lonesome Hollow."

The author recalls many happy days at Willow Grove with the Brooke boys, following in his father's footsteps. Some of the happiest of these days were spent playing golf on a closely grazed bluegrass pasture lot, which made a good course of "greens" and "tees" for beginners. All was warmth and cheer at the Willow Grove "Roof Tree" whatever the season.

Alban Brooke, born in 1850, married Sarah Pleasants in January, 1878, and they went to Willow Grove with the widowed mother of the groom. At that time Martha, Willie, Walter, and Roger VII had all married and moved into their own homes, and the unmarried daughters, Mary P. and Deborah Brooke, continued to live at the home where they were born.

Alban and "Sadie" Pleasants Brooke, as she was called to distinguish her from her mother-in-law, Sallie, had four children, but one of whom are living in 1961. Edward P. married Florence Waddy in June, 1907. He was employed by the District Government for forty-four years until he retired in 1948. Alice Brooke married William Dinwiddie in June, 1929, and moved to Woodburn on the Batchelor's Forest road nearby. Tarleton, the second son of Alban and "Sadie" Brooke, born in 1881 stayed on at the old home and managed the large farm with great success. He was a confirmed bachelor until his marriage to Eloise Pleasants in 1929. He purchased the old home from the other heirs.

Tarleton Brooke became much interested in the Charter movement for Montgomery County,

M:23-115

and was one of the first to push this reform of the county government beginning in 1938. He served on the charter committee until his sudden death on election day in 1946. His death occurred in front of the polls at Olney. He challenged the activities of a Democratic organization worker, said to have been illegally engaged within 100 feet of the polls. What words passed between them is not known, but it is known that Tarleton collapsed and died almost instantly. His passing was generally looked upon as martyrdom in a good cause in which he firmly believed.

The youngest son of Alban and Sadie Brooke was Allan F. who married Lilly H. Emerson in October, 1925. Following his brother Edward into the District of Columbia Government, he had been employed there for many years, and in 1951 was Director of the Sales Tax Division. He lives on a part of the old Willow Grove acreage, across the fields from his birthplace, in a commodious modern home. They have one grown son.

This old Brooke homestead, was sold with 9

acres, around the house in 1957, to Mr. Albert L. Lauer, Head Auditor of the U. S. District Court, of the District of Columbia.

Mr. Lauer writes, in 1961 "we have found it to be a real joy to live in such a charming old homestead."

The rugged old house contains 13 rooms, six bedrooms on the second, and two on third floor. On the first floor to the right of entrance hall is a dining room and parlor on left and a sun porch. Five fireplaces are throughout the house, and a summer kitchen at the rear has been made into a "pine panelled," family room.

Mr. Lauer is a native of Washington, D.C., and his wife is from Baltimore and they are blessed with two daughters and four sons—daughters, Jacquelyn and Kathryn and sons Albert, Jr., Christopher, Michael and Gregory.

Mrs. Brooke, widow of Tarleton Brooke, sold this home a few years ago to Mr. Albert L. Lauer, the present owner in 1961, and she now makes her home at Woodburn.

Alice Brooke Dinwiddle died, August 26th, 1961, at Woodburn.

Woodburn

THE name Kirk has been well known in Pennsylvania since early colonial times. Like several other families from the Keystone State, the Kirks came to Montgomery County before the middle of the nineteenth century. Four generations occupied the family home shown below. It is believed that the low one-story log structure at the extreme left is at least one hundred and fifty years old.

This charming country house is located on the Batchelor's Forest road to Sandy Spring, which road intersects the Washington-Olney road, Route 97. The house stands on a knoll north of the roadway and faces toward the south, having a pleasing view over a green meadow in which flows a never-failing brook.

Mahlon Kirk I, born November, 1783, a son of Timothy Kirk and his second wife, Mary Cadwallader, was the first of this name to come to Montgomery County from York, Pennsylvania. He married Elizabeth Brown of Baltimore, a

daughter of Uriah and Mary Brown, in June, 1817. It is believed by his descendants that he and Elizabeth came to Woodburn quite a few years before the deed, dated July 31, 1849, by which Samuel Ellicott conveyed to Mahlon Kirk, for a consideration of \$2,400, four hundred seventeen acres of land including parts of Batchelor's Forest, Bradford's Rest, and Snowdon's Manor.

In 1871 Kirk bought a tract of twenty-two acres north of the Batchelor's Forest road from Sallie P. Brooke, widow of Roger Brooke VI, who owned the adjoining farm, Willow Grove. It is believed that Mahlon I and his wife came to Woodburn long before the deed from Ellicott, and may have rented the farm and lived in the old log cabin shown to the left while building an addition to the house.

Mahlon Kirk I died in April, 1860, and his widow who died nine years later showed that she was quite capable of carrying on a large



#23-115

NAME WILLOW GROVE
LOCATION BATCHELOR'S FOREST RD OLNEY, MD
ACADE E
PHOTO TAKEN 8/12/75 MOWYER